

ANIMAL MUD BATHERS.

The Wild Boar, the Water Buffalo and the Elephant.

Animals when wild constantly die a lingering death from injury to the skin, whether caused, as usually happens in tropical countries, by wounds aggravated by insects or by cutaneous disease; hence the pains which they take in making their toilet and in the use and selection of "cosmetics." Among birds the salt water species often seek fresh water to wash in, different land birds choose different earths in which to dust and also wash in water, and nearly every tropical animal, including the tiger, bathes either in water or in mud. Perhaps the best known mud bathers are the wild boar, the water buffalo and the elephant. The latter has an immense advantage over all other animals in the use of its trunk for dressing wounds. It is at once a syringe, a powdering puff and a hand.

Water, mud and dust are the main "applications" used, though it sometimes covers a sun scorched back with grass or leaves. "Wounded elephants," writes Sir Samuel Baker, "have a marvelous power of recovery when in their wild state, although they have no gifts of surgical knowledge, their simple system being confined to plastering their wounds with mud or blowing dust upon the surface. Dust and mud comprise the entire pharmacopoeia of the elephant, and this is applied upon the most trivial as well as upon the most serious occasions. I have seen them, when in a tank, plaster up a bullet wound with mud taken from the bottom."—London Spectator.

CHINESE SERVANTS.

How They Pass Along Information About Their Employers.

In China it is a common thing for some people to bewail the lack of a cook, while their neighbors have numbers offering themselves directly the vacancy occurs. The reason of this is that each cook hands on to his successor his employer's "character." This he does by means of a saucepan left standing in the kitchen.

If the place be considered a good one a saucepan will be left on the ground with the lid put on properly. If the lid be put on wrong way upmost it means that the place is a good one and that the cook has only left for a time and means to return as soon as he can. If the lid be put half in and half out of the saucepan it indicates that the place is a good one, but the master is stingy. If the lid be on properly and some rice be left in it it shows that the servant is quite satisfied with everything concerning the owners of the house, but that he is obliged to leave owing to debts or other causes which inconvenience him. If the employer be in the habit of making his servants pay for lost or broken articles a chalk mark will be found on the bottom of the saucepan, which will not easily be rubbed off.

The Chinese "boy" makes his mark behind the bedroom or pantry door and the waterman his on the bottom of tubs. These signs are said to have been originally adopted by the Chinese from the Tamils.

Why Some Men Are Superstitious.

There are men who have a congenital tendency to distrust fate. With the better half of their minds they may be optimists, but there is a corner which is never free from the pain of fear, the fear of a sort of transcendental spite. Plutarch said of the superstitious that they believed in the gods and believed them to be unfriendly. Some survival of this pagan notion remains to this day even among those whose reasonable conviction and reverent faith alike lead them to totally opposite conclusions. They do not believe they will have more misfortunes if they take a house which is numbered 13 than if they took one numbered 31, but they avoid the former in order to quiet their own painful imaginations.—London Spectator.

Mara's Voice.

Mme. Mara had a voice that extended from middle G to E in alt and was one of the most facile and flexible ever known. She delighted in the florid music of Hasse, Graun, Benda, Jomelli, Pergalese, Porpora, Sacchini and others of that school, and with the utmost ease executed passages that are now consigned to solo instruments, such as the violin and flute. She held the stage from 1771 to 1802, with an occasional appearance after the latter date.

Charlotte Cushman.

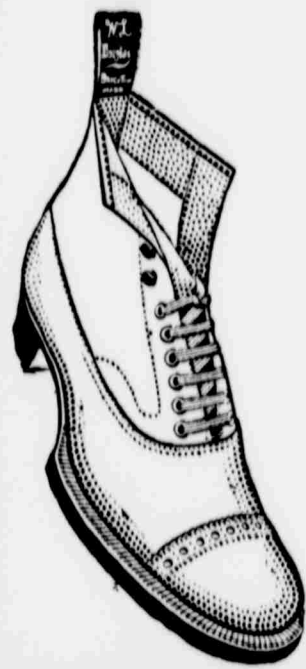
One icy night Charlotte Cushman and Lawrence Barrett came out of the theater together. The steps were dangerously slippery, and it was with difficulty that they kept their feet at all. As they totteringly descended the great actress said to her companion, quite in her Lady Macbeth manner: "Take a good grip on my arm, Lawrence, and if I slip hold on like grim death. But if you slip in the name of heaven let go!"

Bids Wanted.

The St. Lucie Ice Company will receive bids for furnishing cord wood. Address, T. J. O'Brien, secretary.

A dry dock is to be built at Pensacola.

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LOCAL OVERFLOW.

The ladies of St. Andrews guild were pleasantly entertained at the home of Mrs. N. J. Trowell yesterday afternoon.

The Misses Sogaard, of White City, were guests, Thursday; of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Reed.

SOME STATE NEWS.

By January 1st Dade county will have 81 miles of continuous rock road.

The Pure Food exposition will open in Jacksonville next Thursday.

A wet and dry election will be held in Osceola county February 1st. The is now wet.

Cukes, eggplant, tomatoes, beans, etc., are moving in quantities from West Palm Beach. Acreage there much decreased on account of failure last year.

Lee county growers are feeling very jubilant over the fact that that county took the first prize for the largest and best display of citrus fruits at the state fair.

Lettuce crop along the route of the Gainesville & Gulf railway will be good. Shipments are just beginning.

He Lasted Well.

They were in the family portrait section of the gallery, and it seemed to Miss Goughly that her English visitor was deeply impressed.

"Yes, these are all my ancestors," she said proudly. "Now, this is my great-great-grandfather, when he was a young man, of course. Isn't he handsome? My grandfather used to tell my mother that his grandfather—that's this one—was a splendid looking man as long as he lived and as popular with women as with men because he was such a hero."

"Brave? I guess he was! Why, he never fought in a battle that he didn't lose an arm or a leg or something from being right in front of everybody! He was in twenty-three engagements!"

Japanese English.

Clarence Ludlow Brownell in his book, "The Heart of Japan," tells amusingly of some signs he saw in Japan on the shops of merchants who were bidding for English and American trade: "Barber to Shave Beard or to Dress Hairs Away," "The Genuinely Bier Buy the Health for Drink," "Or smokes our tobacco is pressure to Our tongue and give the healthiness to Hops and Hees! Also All People by It," "Cowmeat and Pigmeat and Rammune Souda Sasupre Zinsinbiya Jin-lyael." This last means lemon soda, sarsaparilla, ginger beer and ginger ale.

The Ascent of Tree Sap.

The problem of the ascent of sap in trees, an English botanist points out, is yet unsolved. It appears that in the highest trees the total pressure would be nearly 100 atmospheres, and as we cannot suppose that leaves can exert so intense osmotic suction, the only theory at all probable is that the living cells exert some sort of pumping action in the wood.

Wisdom's End.

"While he was under thirty his parents had too much sense to let him marry."

"Yes."

"While he was under fifty he had too much sense to wed."

"I see."

"Now that he's eighty-five"—

"Well?"

"He's going to take a wife."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

REMARKABLE DUELS.

Fantastic Contests That Tried Men's Nerve and Courage.

Two heavy weights suspended from a beam by slender cords were the weapons chosen by two Parisians named Durier and Voisin to terminate their rivalry for the hand of a pretty actress. Beneath a weight each took his stand, there to remain until the breaking of one or the other of the cords should decide his fate. For more than four hours they remained motionless, when the cord attached to Durier's weight snapped, and the ponderous mass of metal, falling upon the man beneath, struck him to the ground. Fortunately, however, it just missed his head, and he escaped with no worse damage than a severe shock and a broken collar bone.

Somewhat prolonged was the duel waged a few years back at a well known Yorkshire seaside resort, to decide which of two young men should surrender his claim to the hand of a local publican's daughter. The rivals both prided themselves upon their nautical prowess, so it was agreed that he who should first miss his morning's swim in the open should withdraw his pretension to the lady's hand. For nine months and more each took his matutinal swim, but at length there came a day of such furious storm that one turned faint hearted and refused to dare the tempestuous billows. The other, however, at considerable risk, dashed into the foaming sea, and, although he was badly cut and bruised, emerged a triumphant wooer.

Another aqueous duel occurred some years since, the location being the lake of Geneva and the contestants a Swiss named Zellner and one Lenoir, a Frenchman, who agreed that he who could remain the longest beneath the surface of the water should without interruption or hindrance from the other be permitted to pay his addresses to the daughter of a wealthy tradesman. The rivals dived simultaneously, and more than two minutes elapsed ere Zellner's head appeared above the surface. There was no sign, however, of his rival, after whom when yet another two minutes had sped a couple of onlookers dived and succeeded in recovering his senseless body. Restoratives were successfully applied, and on Lenoir's recovering consciousness he was acclaimed the victor.

At the time of Sassi's forty day fast at the Westminster aquarium, some years ago, a couple of young Mancunians agreed by emulating his example to decide which of them should first propose for the hand of a girl who had hitherto regarded them with a seemingly impartial affection. Four days was sufficient ordeal for one, who, refusing any longer to abstain from food, left the field clear to his rival, whose proposal, however, met with scant consideration from the lady, who declared that she would not intrust her future to the keeping of such a fool as he had proved himself. Needless to say his rival's reception was equally glacial.

During a very severe winter in the last century a couple of Germans, natives of Dresden, resolved for love of a woman to fight a duel to the death. Very fantastic was the method employed. Without provision of any kind and clad only in the lightest of clothes, they went out into the country, there to remain without shelter until one or other of them should succumb to the cold. Three days after their departure a wretched object crawled back into the town. Ten miles distant his rival, frozen to death, lay beneath the falling snow.—London Tit-Bits.

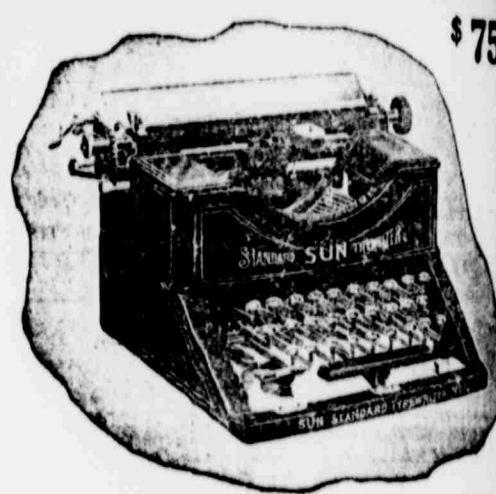
Warden—Now, we try to give our prisoners work of the kind they are accustomed to. Prisoner—That suits me. I was a traveling salesman.—Cleveland

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Light Wood—24-inch, \$5 per cord of 128 cubic feet
Will add Mangrove, Oak and Spruce later on.
Wood Yard back of carpenter shop and lumber yard. Leave orders at residence, wood yard or by mail. Prompt delivery within one mile at above prices.
H. B. Paxton.

U. S. MAILS AT FORT PIERCE

Mails Due to Arrive.
From the North..... 1.50 a. m. 5.50 p. m.
From the South..... 10.45 a. m. 10.20 p. m.

Mails Close.
For the North..... 10.15 a. m. 8.30 p. m.
For the South..... 5.20 p. m. 8.30 p. m.

Mails arriving on night trains are not delivered to the post office until the following morning at 7 o'clock.
The postoffice will be open Sundays from 9.30 to 10.30 a. m. and from 5.30 to 7.30 p. m.
P. E. COBB, Postmaster.

Eggs for Hatching

Single Comb White Leghorns. The hen that lays is the hen that pays. Eggs, \$1.50 for 15; \$2.75 for 30.

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